

MARCH

1975

AT THE
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

MARCH MEETINGS

Dates & Times: Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday March 12
Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, March 12-13

Place: May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker: Garth A. Hull

Subject: "EARTH: A New Perspective"

Mr. Hull is an Educational Programs Officer in the Public Affairs Office of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at the Ames Research Center. Prior to his present position, he was a senior lecturer in NASA's traveling space science demonstration unit.

"EARTH: A New Perspective" will highlight the remarkable recent accomplishments of NASA's manned and unmanned investigations, including visits to six of our solar system's planets in the past two years—and exciting and noteworthy visits they were. Also his illustrated discussion will outline NASA's future plans, which, hopefully, will be accomplished in the 1980s.

Mr. Hull is a member of the National Science Teachers Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Three presentations as usual and your membership card admits you through the main entrance, Cowell Hall.

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"QUEEN OF THE TWILIGHT", dealing with our neighbor in space, the planet Venus, will continue through March 16. Beginning March 20:

"SKYLIGHT", in celebration of the spring equinox, the planetarium joins the M. H. de Young Museum and other Bay Area institutions in a city-wide "Rainbow Show" (see NEWS AND NOTES). "SKYLIGHT" is all about light, color and other related sky phenomena including auroras, eclipses, sun dogs, halos,

etc. Performances daily at two with evening performances Wednesday and Thursday *only* at eight. Extra matinees at 3:30 on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Adults, \$1.00. Those seventeen and under, 50c.

LASERIUM

"A Cosmic Light Concert Under the Stars" is the planetarium's box-office hit during the weekends. Please note that it is *not* a planetarium show *nor* are your membership tickets or passes usable for this attraction. Here is a completely different light and sound experience difficult to describe but certainly worth your attention. It is presented on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 with extra shows at 4:45 on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$3.00 and available at Bay Area Seating Service outlets (Pacific Stereo stores, Discount Record stores, and Montgomery Ward). They will also be available at the Academy box-office (if not sold out) at the time of a particular performance.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"THE GENIUS OF BENIAMINO BUFANO", a one-man show by this late San Francisco artist, has attracted singular attention throughout the state, what with feature articles in numerous newspapers and magazines, and well worth it it is, being a comprehensive display including sculptures in many materials, mosaics, graphics and paintings, many of them never before on public view. *Sunset Magazine* headlines it "The most complete look ever at what Bufano was up to" with a subtitle of "Among other things it's a children's show . . . all this year in San Francisco." The exhibit is located in Lovell White Hall and adjoining areas.

"SKYLAB", in Hohfeld Gallery, is presented in cooperation with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and includes, among other surprising things, a model of Skylab itself. Continues for the next several months.

The 22nd Annual Bay Area Science Fair will be open to the public April 5-9.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF MONTHLY
ACADEMY MEETINGS
April 9-10, May 14-15, and June 11-12.



News and Notes



As you read this, success may already have been achieved in one of the most exciting expeditions of recent years that involves the Academy. On January 31, Dr. John McCosker, Superintendent, Steinhart Aquarium, heading a team of eight American and French scientists and divers, departed for the east coast of Africa. Final destination: the Comoro Islands in the Indian Ocean. The purpose: to bring back *alive* an ancient fish called the Coelacanth. This living fossil was thought extinct for 70,000,000 years but in 1938 a specimen was caught by native fisherfolk. Its discovery was one of the most exciting biological finds of the century, rather like coming across a dinosaur in Golden Gate Park or seeing a woolly mammoth in the High Sierra. Since the initial find, 82 other specimens have been caught (most of them killed and preserved immediately). But this expedition has the goal of bringing one back alive for display in our Steinhart Aquarium—and what a coup that would be!

The expedition, at this writing, has planned a six-week stay in the Comoro Archipelago. However, the hand of Fate may intervene and we may, by now, have the excitement of looking at an aquatic "monster" that has remained much the same for 300 million years—swimming in the waters of Steinhart Aquarium.

As indicated earlier, the Academy will celebrate, with other Bay Area institutions, the spring equinox. Its con-

tribution is titled "A Show of Color" in this city-wide salute, "A Rainbow Show". There will be touches throughout the CAS with special labels on particular exhibits where color information will be researched and added. A feature case will be placed in Cowell Hall plus other exhibits prepared for the occasion in a salute to Spring 1975.

Three adult classes begin this month with room for additional students: Tim Wood will lead four field trips to Marin in a course entitled "Natural Communities of Pt. Reyes", Ed Ross is repeating his popular "Natural History of Insects" and Mollie Schneider will offer the field course "Ecology of San Francisco Bay". Check with the Education Office at 221-4214 for details.

TRAVEL NOTES

TIDEPOOLING—April 25 and 27

There will be excellent minus tides on Saturday April 26 and Sunday April 27, at 6:45 and 7:30 a.m. respectively. Our Invertebrate Zoology Department staff will introduce two separate small groups to tidepool ecology at a nearby beach on those mornings. These events are free to members but, to avoid the damage of too many feet on a delicate habitat, we must limit the number of reservations we can accept. Please respond, by mail only, to the Travel Department of the Academy, stating your order of preference for dates and the number in your party. We will accept them in order of receipt and confirm with further details.

TUOLUMNE RIVER TRIP—May 10-11

Our Tuolumne trip covers the most exciting and beautiful stretch of white water in California and probably the most challenging 17 miles of navigable water in the U.S. Described as a river trip for the experienced and athletic, we will raft down this river on oar boats—passengers will not paddle. Rafting is tightly controlled on this river and thus we are unlikely to see any other commercial rafters during our weekend on this remote stretch of the Tuolumne.

We will put-in near Groveland at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, May 10, and raft to Ward's Ferry, arriving late afternoon on May 11. We will camp out on Saturday night. Meals are provided from Saturday lunch through Sunday lunch. Cost is \$110 and limited to 16 people, age 12 and older.

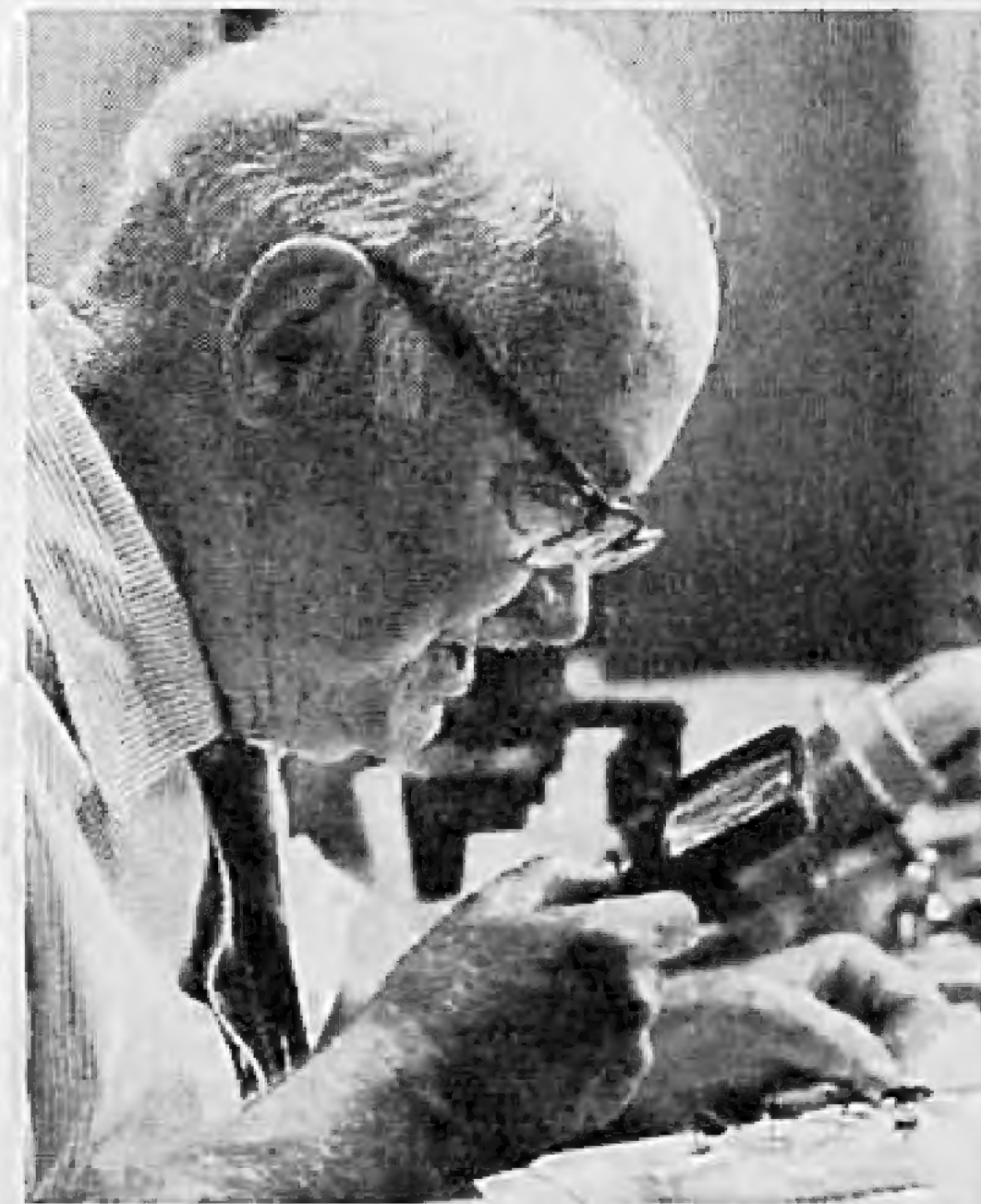
STANISLAUS RIVER TRIP—Memorial Day Weekend, May 25-26

Following our extremely successful September rafting trip down the Stanislaus, we are repeating the trip with the added thrill of high spring water. Trippers will meet at 6:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 25 at the Robinson's Ferry Campground immediately adjacent to the Stanislaus River. We are transported to the Camp Nine put-in, and the river brings us back to the campground and our cars by 5 p.m., Monday, May 26. We will camp under the stars on Sunday night. Besides rafting, trippers will have the option of exploring side creeks, canyons or limestone caves under the leadership of the guides. Meals are provided from lunch on Sunday through lunch on Monday. Cost is \$75 per person and limited to 25 people, age 12 and older.

Reservations for both trips by mail only to Travel Department of the Academy. Checks should be payable to the California Academy of Sciences. Further details accompany confirmation.

PUEBLO COUNTRY—May 24-June 1

Pueblos and pots, Kachina dolls and missions, all the wild scenery of the Southwest Indian Country loom as the Academy hits the Santa Fe Trail, May 24 to June 1. Santa Fe, Taos and environs, Chaco Canyon, Mesa Verde, Canyon de Chelly, Second Mesa, Window Rock comprise this intensive itinerary. Some spaces remain on this trip first announced in the spring education brochure. Cost is \$500 per person and includes all air and ground transportation, hotels, lunches and tour fees. Single supplement of \$65. Reservations and inquiries should be made to Gulliver's Travel, 3597 Sacramento Street, San Francisco. Telephone (415) 346-4400.



MEET THE STAFF

Photo Credit:
Joseph J. Rosenthal,
San Francisco Chronicle

CORNELIUS B. PHILIP, Research Associate in the Department of Entomology and Fellow of the Academy, received national attention in 1973 when an article appeared in a Los Angeles newspaper featuring him as one of the world's authorities on horseflies. He is and has been for over fifty years a tabanidologist. During his career, he has collected or obtained from colleagues all but nine of the 298 species known in North America north of Mexico which he catalogued in 1947 and revised in 1965. Many of his earlier types of new species are in the CAS collection.

A Coloradoan, he received degrees from universities in Nebraska (B.S. and D.Sc.) and Minnesota (M.S. and Ph.D.). His career as a medical entomologist has been distinguished and varied, serving on staffs and commissions on every continent except Antarctica. Awards and citations include the Superior Service Award, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the U.S.A. Typhus Commission Medal in 1946.

His scientific home base for 40 years was the Rocky Mountain Laboratory at Hamilton, Montana. As he traveled the world, he was never without indulging his "hobby" as he calls it of watching for tabanids. He retired as Director from the Laboratory in Montana and, in 1970, joined the CAS staff.

Dr. Philip and his wife Gladys are proud of their family of four children and 15 grandchildren. He enjoyed golf until recently and still fishes and hunts when he can return to old haunts in the Bitterroot Valley. But his main interest is still those much-maligned insects, horseflies and deerflies.

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